

MINUTES AND REPORT

OF

MEETING OF COUNCIL

COOPERATIVE FEDERATION OF VICTORIA

held at 369 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne on Monday, 18th February 1980 commencing 7p.m.

1. PRESENT

Mr. M. Rundle	Chairman
Mr. J. N. Black	
Mr. K. D. Currey	
Mr. E. J. Long	
Mr. B. H. Macintosh	
Mr. O. J. Slattery	Executive Officer
Mr. W. W. Rawlinson	

Apologies for non-attendance were received from:

Mr. A. Dash
Mr. N. Harvey
Mr. J. Rigby
Mr. I. A. Wood

2. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 1979, having been circulated, were adopted as a correct record of that meeting and confirmed.

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.i Conference Report - Minute 3.ii
This was copied and given wide distribution.

3.ii Treasury submission on Law Reform Enquiry
Referred to Cooperative Insurance Company

3.iii Cooperatives and Small Business Development Corporation Act
Reply received from Minister indicating support for

3.vi Social Function
The Chairman reported on the social function for Councilors and wives held on 23rd November 1979.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

4.i Acknowledgement from family of late Harold Lyons - former President.

4.ii Letter to and acknowledgement from K. R. Hall on his appointment to the Cooperative Advisory Council.

4.iii From Deputy Commissioner of Taxation confirming matters verbally indicated to Financial Administrators Group.

5. FINANCIAL

A statement of income and expenditure from 1.7.79 to 31.1.80 and estimated balance sheet as at 31.1.80 was submitted to the Council, discussed and adopted.

Taxation returns for the Federation for its financial years ending June 30 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974 and 1975 have been required by the Taxation Dept. These have been completed and submitted, together with a copy of the Federation's Rules.

6. NEW MEMBERS

Application for membership, supported by Rules and relevant affiliation fee was received from

Trans National Hauliers Cooperative Ltd.

The documents, being in order, the application was approved and the Cooperative was admitted into membership of the Federation.

7. LEGISLATION

7.i The President reported on correspondence dated 12th December 1979 with the Minister administering the Cooperation Act on the subject of amendments to the Act and lack of recognition of the Department of Cooperatives in the Directory of Government Departments and Authorities.

7.ii The meeting considered recommendations from the Legislation Committee on 47 Amendments to the Cooperation Act submitted to the Registrar by the Victorian Credit Cooperative Association. The detailed recommendations were agreed by Council who directed the detailed reply be sent to the President and General Manager, the C.C.A. and also to the Registrar.

7.iii The President presented a report from the Legislation Committee on its recommendations on the resolution from the 1979 Annual Conference concerning nominations to Council. After full discussion Council referred the matter back to the Legislation Committee to review the Federation's Rules to enable all members to nominate a Councilor, to provide for a quorum of five members in future Council meetings and to consider quarterly meetings of the full

Council with an Executive Committee meeting monthly or as required.

8. BENDIGO REGIONAL MEETING

This meeting has been arranged for 26th March 1980, with speakers Messrs. Benson and Rawlinson. The President recorded his apology for inability to attend due to previous commitments.

9. EDUCATION

Mr. Rawlinson advised Council a letter had been sent to the organisers of the Annual Conference of the Australian Association of Teachers' Credit Unions. Mr. Dash had attended the Conference and spoken on the subject of Cooperation and the introduction of the subject into school curricula.

The Education Committee has received copies of the V.C.C.A. 1980 Training Programme and recommends publicising the relevant seminars for Management and Directors for Federation members and other Cooperatives in Victoria. Council agreed.

One paper on Directors Role and Responsibilities will be presented at the Bendigo Regional Meeting.

10. REPORTS

10.i Cooperative Advisory Council

Mr. Long reported that current indications are for draft amendments to the Cooperation Act to come before the Advisory Council at its March 1980 meeting.

He submitted brief reports on developments in the Goat Milk Producers Cooperative and Cooperative Farmers & Graziers Direct Meat Supply.

10.ii Executive Officer

10.ii.i. Mr. Rawlinson reported on his attendance at the 1st International Symposium on Cooperatives and Schools organised by the ICA at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris. 84 delegates from 25 countries participated.

The experiences of school cooperatives in countries where they have been developed indicated forcefully that this is an excellent method of encouraging students develop skills in the practice of democracy, decision making managerial and social responsibilities.

The Victorian Director General of Education has been advised of this overseas practice and a meeting has been arranged between the Executive Officer and the Assistant Director General - Curriculum on 26th February 1980.

10.ii.2. Small Businesses and Cooperatives Committee

Mr. Rawlinson attended a meeting of the Committee on 6th February. He reported on problems with Government administration in developing procedures for issue of funds on loan to approved applicants. The officer seconded from the Small Business Development Corporation to screen and process applications has returned to his normal duties.

Questions are being put to the Victorian Employment Committee on the situation concerning production of Cooperative promotional material.

10.ii.3. Cooperatives Visited

Visits have been made to:

- (a) Bendigo Trading Cooperative where progress appears sound and close interaction occurs between it and the Bendigo Credit Union in the matter of use of financial resources.
- (b) Broadford Cooperative Hotel where the financial position is sounder with sales and expenses for past three months in line with the budget introduced at November 1978.
- (c) Hopetoun Community Hotel.
Had discussions with Manager and one Director. Interested in meeting other Cooperative Hotel managers and directors collectively.
- (d) Edenhope Cooperative, which continues to trade unprofitably. Board requests a meeting to discuss possible programmes for revitalisation of the business. Meeting arranged for 27th February which will also be attended by the Manager, Warrnambool Cooperative Society.

10.ii.4. Staff

53 applications received for the advertised position of part-time secretary (3 days per week). Appointment will be made before end of February 1980.

10.iii. Cooperative Federation of Australia

Mr. Macintosh reported that the Council of the C.F.A. will be meeting in Perth in March 1980. Due to an overseas commitment he will be unable to attend. Council directed Mr. Long attend as sole representative.

Council noted a letter from the Chairman, Cooperative Federation of Western Australia to C.F.A. Council on restructuring of the C.F.A.

Mr. Slattery advised the meeting that the Finance Committee of C.F.A. will meet in Melbourne on 21st February with the object of attempting to formulate C.F.A. policy guidelines relating to activation of programmes in conjunction with AFCUL for promotion of a cooperative credit institution.

11. VISIT OF MR. K. D. NADEN, PRESIDENT, U.S.A. NATIONAL COUNCIL OF FARMER COOPERATIVES

Council endorsed the action in organising a self-financing luncheon meeting for Victorian Agricultural Cooperative leaders to meet Mr. Naden on 14th March 1980. As the visit to Australia of Mr. Naden is at the invitation of the Cooperative Federation of Western Australia, the Council agreed to cover two-thirds of Mr. Naden's costs whilst in Victoria.

12. OTHER BUSINESS


Mr. Black queried the continued requirement of Model Rules for Cooperative Society cheques to be signed by two directors and countersigned by the Secretary. Council advised a Society may amend its Rules with the authority of the Registrar to change this requirement.

13. NEXT MEETING

Council agreed its next meeting will be held at 369 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne on Monday, 31st March 1980, commencing 7 p.m.

14. CLOSURE

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 10.45 p.m.



Handwritten signature and date 8/6/80.